Lord Chancellor's PETITION

To His Highneſs the Prince of Orange,

On His Entrance into LONDON.

Moſt Humbly Sheweth,

THAT your Petitioner, who was once Lord High *Chancellor* of *England*, is now become the Loweſt of your Supplicants; and from the firſt and chiefeſt Councellor about the Throne, a miſerable Dejected Captive in the *Tower*.

I do not preſume to Juſtifie my Integrity, that would be an Arrogance as black as my Crimes. I confeſs, I am as unworthy to Live, as I am unwilling to Die; and therefore I Proſtrate my ſelf to the Foot-ſtool of your Grace and Clemency, that Fountain of Inexhauſted Goodneſs, whence only Mercy can flow, upon ſo Vile and Notorious a Delinquent.

To Innumerate my Crimes, would be as numberleſs as the Enemies I have created by them; nor will I preſume to Prophane your Sacred Ears with ſo black a Catalogue, whoſe precious Minutes are more happily Imploy'd in the weightier Affairs of the Nation; the Reſtitution of thoſe Laws and Liberties which I, by my byaſs'd and precipitate Council, endeavour'd to Subvert.

What cou'd be more pernicious and deſtructive to the Fundamental Laws of the Nation, than to Eſtabliſh a Power in the Monarch, to diſpence with them?

What greater Inlet to *Popery*, than to take off the *Teſt* and *Penal Laws*? What deeper ſtroke to the *Proteſtant Church*, than to Erect a Court of *Eccleſiaſtical Commiſſioners*, to pull down Her Pillars? What ſharper Perſecution of the Prelates, than by publiſhing an Arbitrary Declaration; for the Non-obeying of which Illegal Warrant, ſo many ſince have been treated as Criminals in the *Tower*: Nor cou'd there be a more Irregular Method than the late Regulating of Corporations for a free Election of Parliament. In all which, and many others, (to my Shame, I muſt confeſs) I have been all along a principal Counſellor and Inſtrument.

Theſe (may it pleaſe your Highneſs) are the crying Crimes, which, were they yet greater, is in your Power to mitigate, by your Interceſſions to the Parliament, *having already the* King's *Pardon. If you vouchſafe this Mercy to an humble Supplicant, I will promiſe in ſome meaſure to make Retaliation, by diſcovering ſome* Arcana Imperii, *or Intriegues of State, what I am Capable of; which may highly concern your Highneſs's Intereſt in this Kingdom.*

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